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New Service Deposits Program Begins Sept. 1

Overseas servicemen can start accruing a 10 percent interest rate under the new military banking program beginning Sept. 1.

Joint implementing regulations already have been approved and are being prepared for distribution, DOD officials announced.

Officials point out that finance officers and commanding officers will have details by next pay day to start the "Uniformed Services Savings Deposit" program which President Johnson signed into law Aug. 14.

The new savings program allows officers as well as enlisted men to bank.

Other prominent features are deposit of amounts as little as $5.00 but not to exceed any serviceman's unalloted pay; accrual of the 10 percent interest rate up to $10,000; and continuation of the interest rate for 90 days after the individual depositer returns to the U.S. or its possessions.

Depositors under the former "Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Deposit" program who are now overseas can transfer their savings and receive the 10 percent interest rate.

Depositors under the old program at home can continue at the old 4 percent interest rate until current enlistments expire. When CONUS personnel go overseas they can immediately transfer funds or start banking under the new program that pays 10 percent interest, officials said.

U.S. officials have hailed the new overseas savings program as a way to redress the current adverse balance of payments.

STRATCOM-South Gets New Cdr.

Army's Strategic Communications Command-South, headquartered at Corozal, Canal Zone, has a new commanding officer. He is Col. Earl D. Harris, a veteran Signal Corps officer with more than 25 years of military service.

STRATCOM-South is one of five regional subordinate commands in the STRATCOM network which includes 30,000 personnel and reaches into 33 nations.

STRIKE PILOTS HONORED—GEN Earle G. Wheeler (right), USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, presents medals to (left to right) Lcdr. Walter L. Chatham, Cdr. Carl Birdwell and Cdr. Albert J. Monger, for leading Navy air strikes against petroleum facilities at Haiphong, Vietnam. On hand to congratulate the flyers is Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. David L. McDonald. Lcdr. Chatham received the Distinguished Flying Cross; the commanders both received Silver Stars.

Air Force Trains Personnel For CV-2 Aircraft Take-Over

Air Force is now training personnel to fly and maintain CV-2 transport-cargo carrying aircraft that are being acquired from the Army.

Thirty of the Caribou I aircraft are located in the U.S., with the remainder engaged in frontline support in RVN. Effective Jan. 1, 1967, six Air Force squadrons will take the place of six Army CV-2 companies now in operation. There are 144 CV-2s.

Air Force crews are being trained by Tactical Air Command Instructors assigned to a recently formed CV-2 Combat Crew Training Squadron.

Starting in August, Air Training Command will provide formal weapon systems training for ground crews and some 700 mechanics. Initial cadres of aircrews and ground crews will receive training at Lawson Army Air Field, Ga., and then move to an as-yet unspecified Air Force installation.

By mid-December, more than 140 of the programmed 180 Air Force CV-2 crews will have been trained and deployed, according to DOD. Follow-on replacement requirements are estimated to be 15 crews a month.

Washington Memos

DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY procurement nearly doubled in FY66, increasing to $5.7 billion from $3 billion in FY65. DSA, which furnishes commonly used supplies such as food, clothing and POL to all military services, attributes rise to impact of Southeast Asia military buildup.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS nominated Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Gerrity, USAF, to be Senior Air Force Member, Military Staff Committee, United Nations, effective Sept. 1. Gen. Gerrity will replace Lt. Gen. James Ferguson, who becomes Commander of the Air Force Systems Command. Assignment of Gen. Gerrity to U.N. Committee will be in addition to his present duty as deputy chief of staff, Air Force Systems and Logistics.

AUTOMATIC PICTURE TRANSMISSION System is latest weather set-up for aircraft carrier units in Southeast Asia. Presently only USS Oriskany and USS Constellation have the equipment aboard. System's receiver picks up signals from two weather satellites, Essa II and Nimbus II. Information received is used to make flight operations safer for U.S. pilots.

POLARIS MISSILE SUBMARINE Henry L. Stimson was commissioned Aug. 20 at Groton, Conn. Named after WW II Secretary of War, Stimson is 38th fleet ballistic missile submarine to go to sea and is equipped with Polaris A-3 missiles.

AIR FORCE's OFFICE of Aerospace Research (OAR) has received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Award, given to all units of OAR, was for "vigorous and dynamic research program . . . which resulted in a vastly improved research capability to meet the technological requirements of the Air Force in the years ahead."

BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER military personnel in Europe will be able to obtain University of Maryland college credits in algebra via Armed Forces Television Networks. Programming will be in the Ramstein and Wiesbaden areas and the same educational film rotated to each AFRTS outlet in Europe.

THREE ROYAL AIR Force Vulcan B Mark III aircraft will participate in this year's Strategic Air Command Combat Competition at Fairchild AFB, Wash., Oct. 2-8. SAC will have 37 B-52 and B-58 aircraft in competition. Unit with highest number of 1,500 possible points will be awarded Fairchild Trophy.

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN Air Force technology will be discussed among 500 Air Force scientists and engineers convening for 13th Annual Air Force Science and Engineering Symposium at Arnold Engineering Development Center, Arnold AF Sta., Tenn., September 27-29. Symposium is sponsored jointly by Air Force Systems Command and Office of Aerospace Research.

MARINE CORPS RESERVE celebrates its 50th anniversary Aug. 29 with local ceremonies in 45 states. Golden Anniversary in Washington will be marked by ceremonies at the Marine Memorial and the issuance of a special five cent stamp saluting the Marine Reserve.

RICE SIZED GENERATOR, radio-wave signal generator the size of a grain of rice, has been developed by Army. Gallium arsenide is essential material. So far experiments have proven device highly efficient with almost unprecedented signal strength output in comparison to electrical power input.

AIR FORCE'S RADAR approach control center, Spangdahlem, Germany, and CMSgt. Billy J. Karr, Vance AFB, Okla., have been named winners of the Air Traffic Control Facility and Air Traffic Controller of the Year awards. Awards presented annually by AF Communications Service.

ARMY RECRUITERS COLLEGE-BOUND as travelling officer selection teams will travel this fall to more than 600 universities to tell about Officer Candidate School program. Army previously announced plans to recruit more than 42,000 OCS aspirants in FY67, saying OCS will be its primary source of junior officers.

FREEDOMS FOUNDATION CONTEST in 1966 letter writing will offer to all service personnel prizes amounting to $8,500. Top winners also will be invited to Valley Forge, Pa., for awards ceremony. This year's topic in 500 words or less is "Defending Freedom Safeguards America." Entries should contain name, rank, both military and home address, and mailed to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa., before Nov. 1 deadline.

MARS SPACECRAFT CONTRACT under negotiations with Honeywell Co. for design, fabrication and testing of attitude control and scan control subsystems for two Mariner spacecraft scheduled for launch to Mars in 1969, according to NASA. Mariners will make fly-by trajectories to investigate Martian atmosphere, photograph surface and gather data for design of capsules to be landed on planet.

TRUSTEES OF THE DAEDALIAN Foundation have established an annual Graduate Fellowship in Aeronautics or Astronautics, to be awarded, in turn, to a graduate of Air Force Academy, Military Academy, Naval Academy, and Coast Guard Academy. Announcement by Maj. Gen. N. B. Harbold (ret.), national commander, Order of the Daedalians, said award will be made to a graduating senior selected by his academy and will cover tuition and related education fees up to $2,500.

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Marine Commandant Cites RVN Civic Action Progress

Striking progress has been made in both military and civic action efforts in South Vietnam's Da Nang area, according to Gen. Wallace M. Greene Jr., on his return from Vietnam earlier this month.

The Marine Corps Commandant termed the "pacification program"—clearing guerillas from villages and then helping the people in reconstruction—a key factor.

He said our troops are doing plenty of fighting but also are treating the sick, feeding the hungry, rebuilding and providing security absolutely essential to reconstruction.

"The people, in turn, are casting out the Viet Cong from the hamlets and telling us where the enemy is hidden," Gen. Greene added.

He pointed out that villagers are now defending their homes with Combined Action Companies—a team of U.S. Marines and local military—setting the number of such companies at 40 today and 75 by the end of the year.

Citing progress, the Marine Corps Commandant said the I Corps perimeter today encompasses 1620 square miles and 900,000 Vietnamese civilians compared to 10 miles of real estate and a small number of Vietnamese within the perimeter when the Marines first landed 17 months ago.

Seven Latin American Navies Join U.S. in UNITAS VII Exercise

Seven Latin American navies will join forces with the U.S. Navy in September for a three-month anti-submarine warfare training exercise in South American waters.

Designated UNITAS VII, for the seventh consecutive year of hemispheric cooperation in ASW naval maneuvers, the exercise is scheduled to end in early December.

Besides the U.S., participating nations are: Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Uruguay, Brazil and Venezuela.

Combined forces will work with the latest ASW equipment, deploy advanced search and destroy procedures and coordinate training operations with ASW aircraft.

While UNITAS VII involves circumnavigation of the entire South American continent, the exercise gets underway at Trinidad, West Indies, as South Atlantic Forces of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, commanded by Rear Admiral Clyde J. Van Arsdall Jr., steam into the Caribbean.

AT THE THROTTLE—LTG William F. Train, Commanding General, First U.S. Army, engineers a steam locomotive of the 14th Transportation Battalion (Railway) during his visit to the Army Transportation Center at Ft. Eustis, Va.

Navy Changes Selection Procedures For Attendance at Service Colleges

Navy has made major changes in selecting officers to attend junior and senior service colleges. Purpose is to give every qualified officer a better opportunity to attend a military service college.

"Under the new system, a complete year group will be screened once for junior service colleges just prior to the tenth year of service," the Navy said.

Old system for junior service colleges involved annual quotas, with some selectees considered more than once, until the particular year group passed out of eligibility span.

New senior service college selection procedures involve screening each year group twice, at the sixteenth and twenty-first years of service.

Army Orders New Training Planes

Army has ordered 255 Cessna T-41 trainers to replace 0-1 "Bird Dog" observation planes now used for training. 0-1 aircraft are used for operational missions in the Republic of Vietnam.

The Army has yet to give the trainer an official designation, but a 1965 Air Force version, called the T-41, is described as a single engine, high wing monoplane, with dual controls and room for two crewmembers and baggage.

The new trainer cruises at 146 mph, reaches a 17,000 foot service ceiling, and has a short field landing and take-off capability.

Marshall Medal Award Highlights AUSA Meeting

Army Association's highest award, the Marshall Medal, will be presented to former President Harry S. Truman on Oct. 12, final day of the association's three-day meeting in Washington, D.C.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk is scheduled speaker for the George Catlett Marshall Memorial Dinner to be attended by the former President.

Keynote address of the meeting will be delivered Oct. 10 by Secretary of the Army, Stanley R. Resor. Army Chief of Staff General Harold K. Johnson will speak at a luncheon Oct. 11 honoring the Army's Senior Commanders.

Gen. White's Widow Donates His Books to AF Academy

Mrs. Thomas D. White, widow of the former Air Force Chief of Staff, has donated a number of volumes from the general's personal library to the Air Force Academy.

Among the most significant items in the approximately 150-volume collection are books autographed by Charles A. Lindberg, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and J. Edgar Hoover.

Overseas Selection Procedures Changed for Senior AF NCOs

Air Force has made changes in overseas selection procedures for technical sergeants and above to allow commands to substitute in like grade and skill "to preclude critical degradation of unit operational capability."

Similar substitution by commands is authorized when the original selectee is determined ineligible.

But a second substitution for the same individual will not be allowed. "The original selectee will be selected again for overseas assignment six months from the date of his original selection, or as soon thereafter as a requirement exists," the Air Force personnel message said.

NEW ALASKAN CHIEF—Lt. Gen. Glen R. Birchard, USAF, assumed command of all Army, Navy, and Air Forces in Alaska July 28, succeeding Lt. Gen. Raymond J. Reeves, who has been reassigned as CinC, North American Air Defense Command.

Navy Redesigns Deep Sea Rescue Vehicle Model

Navy is redesigning its Deep Sea Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) prototype to double its capability for rescuing crewmen from distressed submarines.

One modification in the first DSRV slated for June 1968 completion will be to increase number of submariners rescued per trip from 12 to 24.

A companion modification provides for the carrying of greater amounts of oxygen and lithium hydroxide for stricken submarines to increase survival time aboard the sub from 24 to 48 hours.

Navy said about 5,000 pounds in added weight will not affect speed potential and air transportation.

By 1970 the Navy plans to have six DSRV's with a high probability of an on-the-scene submarine rescue capability anywhere in the world within a 24-hour period.

AAFES Hdqtrs. Operational

The new headquarters of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service in Dallas, Tex., is scheduled to become fully operational Aug. 26.

Army Buys, Distributes Driver Education Kits

The Army is putting renewed emphasis on safe driving by procuring Driver Education instructional kits for distribution to its audio-visual centers worldwide.

The kit consisting of 90 transparencies, can be used for initial driver training, refresher training, or specialized instruction for personnel whose primary military occupational specialty is driving.

Such instruction material can also be used for driver improvement classes involving accident repeaters and chronic violators.

Army said the instructional program, coupled with existing activities in driver licensing, testing, and training should result in a decrease of vehicle accidents.

The new driver training emphasis is in line with President Johnson's Mission SAFETY-70 program.

Navy Installs Unattended Alaskan Telemetry System

Navy has installed an unattended oceanographic telemetry system powered by a radioisotope thermoelectric generator in the Bering Strait off Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska. It is being used to measure various oceanographic conditions in the area.

The generator is expected to enable unattended operation of the system for several years.

The generator operates by converting heat from the decay of radioisotopes directly into electrical energy. Its converted power output is expected to be in excess of 20 watts.

Nuclear Plant Sets Record

The nuclear power plant at Navy's McMurdo Station, Antarctica, passed 2,100 hours of continuous operation Aug. 16, surpassing previous naval shore record.

Navy says the feat proves the reliability of portable nuclear power plants under rigors of polar winter.

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